

MINUTES

Belle Isle Park Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 17, 2019
Location: Belle Isle Nature Center

Meeting called to order at 9:08 a.m.

A Quorum was established

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Sommer Woods
Bryan Barnhill
Brad Dick

PRESENT FOR BIPAC

Chair Michele Hodges
Michael Curis
Bud Denker
Rev. Lonnie Peek

DNR STAFF PRESENT

Ron Olson
Michael Terrell
Karis Floyd
Darlisa Rickman
Jacob Brown
Mia Moore
Kimberley Hicks
Scott Pratt

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes for September 19, 2019:

Moved by: Bud Denker

Seconded by: Michael Curis

Motion to approve excused absence for Brian Barnhill, Sommer Woods, Brad Dick

Moved by: Bud Denker

Seconded by: Rev. Lonnie Peek

General Updates

Karis Floyd, DNR

- Aquarium and Conservatory will receive a new boiler
- Pump house stabilization and assessment is in progress
- Phase 2 of mobility study – signage
- Flooding is receding in the canals in the park
- Athletic complex roof to be replaced (800,000)
- November 4th floor for the Pavilion restored, HVAC and windows replaced

Bud Denker: Was the portable coffer (new) dam ever used this year and what is the impact if we continue to have high water levels?

Amanda Treadwell: Not at this time as the water levels declined.

Chief Ron Olson: If the water levels get to a certain point none of the provisions will matter. The electrical, sewer and water will be the real issue which we will prepare for by spring.

Bud Denker: The culverts can't stop it?

Chief Ron Olson: The culvert will allow water to move through the system but if the water levels in the river exceed the design there is little control of the canal water levels.

Michelle Hodges: Isn't there an ability to have some control of the water levels in the Great Lakes?

Chief Ron Olson: We will look into that.

Park Updates

Karis Floyd, DNR

- Looking forward to hiring 2 new lead park rangers plus 2 park rangers.
- The water has receded in the park canals giving relief to flooding.
- Excited about the 2 new rangers currently working on the island.
- Will start winterizing seasonal restrooms in late October.
 - All bathrooms except for Shelter #7 and the Casino Bathrooms will be closed for the season.
 - Signage will be posted reflecting what bathrooms will be accessible.
- We are currently preparing for our winter and spring seasons.

DNR Law Enforcement and Michigan State Police Update

Nothing new to report.

Infrastructure Updates

Amanda Treadwell (See attachment)

Outreach and Upcoming Events

Karis Floyd, DNR

- Detroit Free Press Marathon race course passes through Belle Isle and Milliken State Parks. The Marathon will take place October 20 from 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Belle Isle Conservancy Update

Michelle Hodges

- The Polish the Jewel Luncheon was held on October 10 with great success involving 350 attendees which will aid in funding the Splash Park and the veranda.
- Would like to thank the Natural Resources workshop.
- November 15, 2020 - Deeper Dive at the Aquarium 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- December 13, 2010 - Holiday Stroll at the Aquarium and Conservatory.
- Oudolf Garden update – An amended plan has been submitted and was approved for implementation. This adjusted due to the high water levels in the canal.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes each)

Michael Betzold

Requested information is needed about the Grand Prix contract extension.

Peter Potoski

Can see the benefit to the Grand Prix bringing more money to the island for improvements, but also supports the quiet nature of the natural park environment and feels a compromise can be reached.

Tom Janiszewski

Will there will be foot trails on the island? **Amanda Treadwell** stated there would be.

Angela Lugo-Thomas

The BIPAC should have at least 1-2 members who are regular park users with no ties or obligations to the Grand Prix/Penske organization.

I am a member of Belle Isle Concern, a grass roots citizen opposed to the running of the Grand Prix on Belle Ilse, a public park. What is the point of allowing public comments at these meeting when our concerns, comments and questions are rarely, if ever, answered or addressed?

Can you explain why the grass in almost every area of the Grand Prix occupation is dead/destroyed?

Angela DiSante

Against Grand Prix destroying the island every spring. Money may talk, but people matter.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS

Bud Denker

If the public would like to be aware of the initiatives taking place on the park, the website is BELLEISLEPARK.ORG.

Rev. Lonnie Peek

Would like to congratulate the park on the \$3.7 million federal grant for the flatwoods restoration and thank Amanda for her hard work.

Michelle Hodges

Wanted to address the fact that it is difficult to be asked to comment on theoretical situations or things that have yet to occur in regard to future contracts and partnerships. But when the time comes to address them the proper processes will be followed.

Motion to Adjourn:

Moved by: Rev. Lonnie Peek

Seconded by: Bud Denker

Meeting Concluded: 10:05 a.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

November 21, 2019

Belle Isle Nature Center

Belle Isle Park

Detroit, MI 48207

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Approved: _____

Michele Hodges

Ronald A. Olson, Chief

Date: _____



The Department of Natural Resources
PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION

BELLE ISLE PARK

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE, October 17, 2019

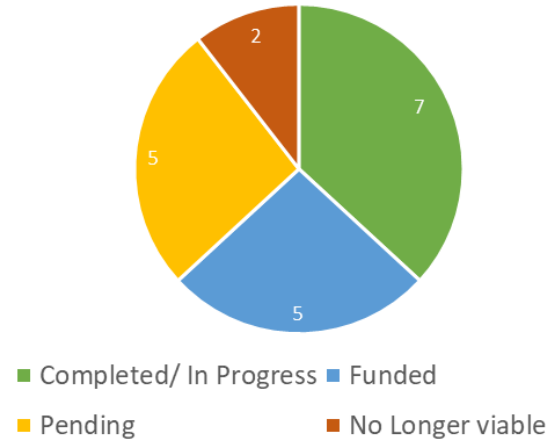


Belle Isle Park Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Projects

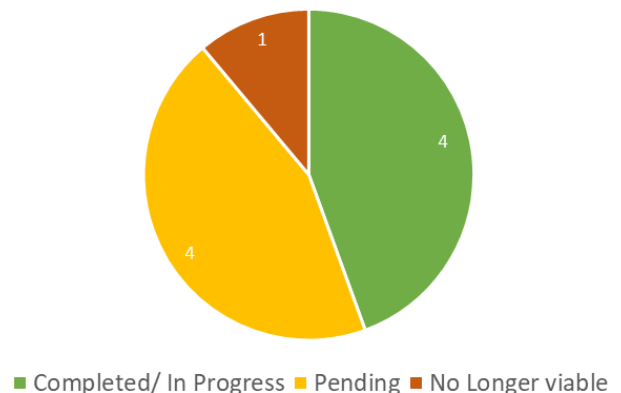
Total FY 2020 Budget
\$1,700,000
State General Funds
\$1,250,000
Belle Isle Park Revenue
\$450,000

1. Pump House and Shoreline Stabilization Assessment - \$200,000
2. New Boiler to Service Belle Isle Aquarium and Conservatory - \$200,000
3. Construction for Site Improvements of Park HQ - \$250,000
4. Flynn Pavilion Improvements - \$125,000
5. Roof Replacement for Athletic Shelter & Handball Roof Removal - \$825,000
6. Belle Isle Park Master Plan, to be completed in coordination with traffic planning study \$100,000

Priority 1 Project Status, July 2019



Priority 2 Project Status, July 2019



Belle Isle Strategic Management Plan Infrastructure Investment Summary

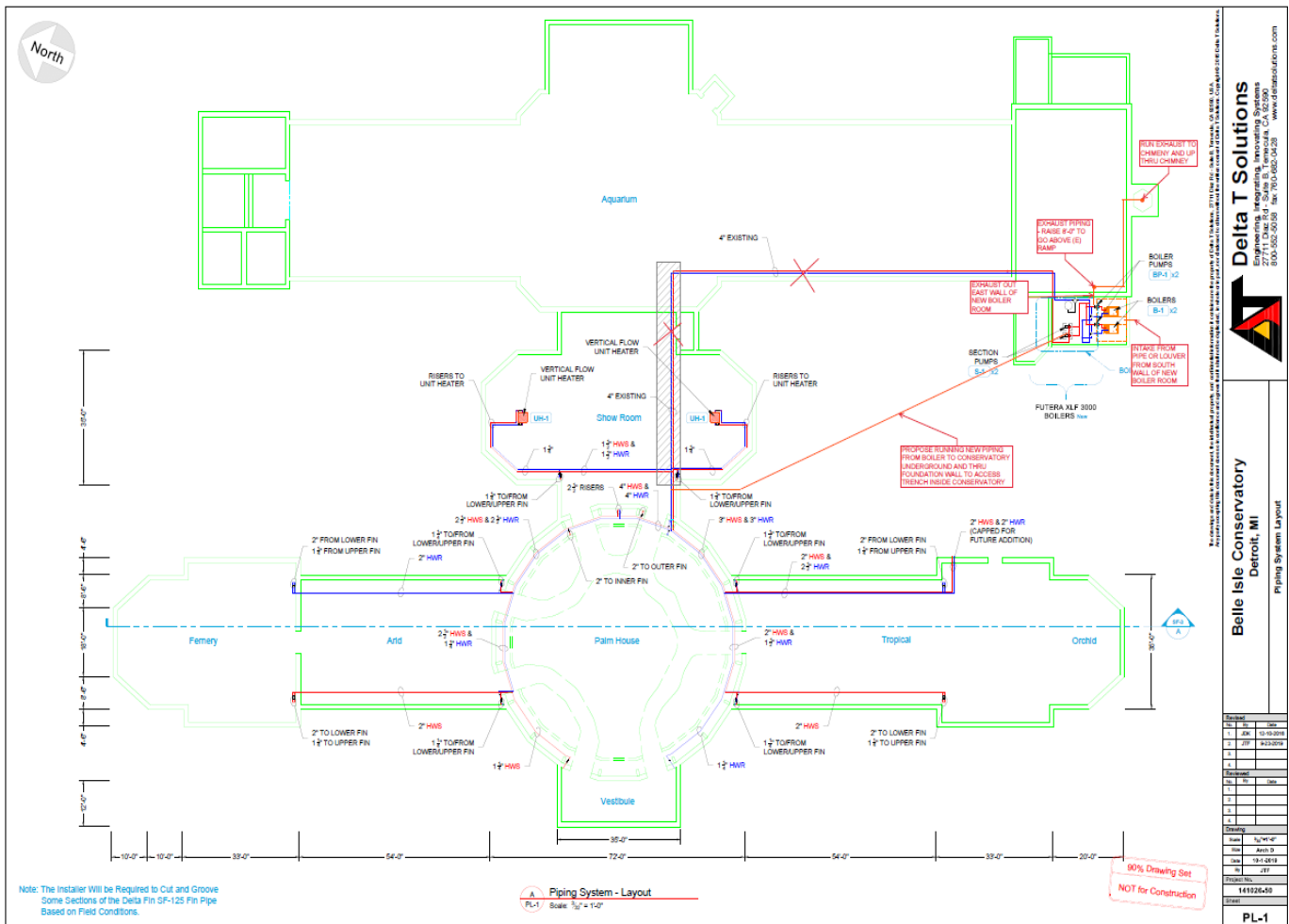
- 100 % of Top Priority Projects (viable) have been addressed since 2018
- More than \$45,303,450 has been invested in infrastructure from FY 2014 to FY2019
- Funding made up of public and private funds

BELLE ISLE PARK

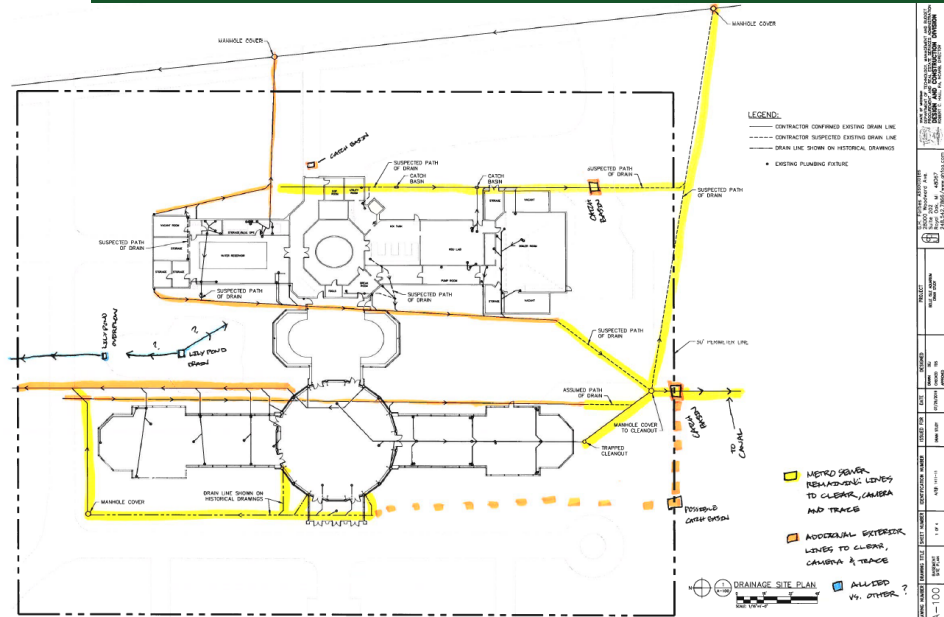
INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE, October 17, 2019

Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory

- **Structural Repairs:** Mock-up for upper dome glass replacement is Monday, October 28th.
- **Boiler Replacement:** Will be installed this fall to supplant existing 2 serving the BIA and ASWC.
- **Garden ADA Access:** WTA contractor on site to perform survey site work for ADA Accessible design to ASWC Garden from West Gate.
- **Heating and Ventilation Design for ASWC:** Consultants are currently reviewing 3 different control options with the horticultural/stewardship staff.



Proposed Boiler Room Connection for ASWC



Belle Isle Aquarium and Conservatory Drainage Study

- Contractor will complete additional investigative work.
- Exterior lateral lines will be investigated under DWSD contract.



Belle Isle Aquarium Geothermal Feasibility Study Update

Drilling for the test well has begun and contractor is anticipated to be on site for the next 2-3 weeks. During the testing operations, the main entrance sidewalk to the BIA is anticipated to be open.



The contractor has set up site protection measures that include storm drain blockers, mats for the drill rig to protect the grass, a water tank, and spill/overflow prevention measures.

This week the crew drilled to 85 feet and were just starting to get into bedrock at this depth. There were no gasses or artesian conditions at this time. Before leaving the site the crew plugged the casing with a compressed air expandable plug to prevent any gas that may be in the boring from

BELLE ISLE PARK

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE, October 17, 2019

The Detroit River Boating Access Study

- Report recommends multi-pronged approach to addressing BAS needs will require inter-agency coordination.
- Current BAS facilities do not meet the local need as there is only 1 public BAS within a 5 mile radius of Downtown Detroit.
- 3 of the 83 Michigan counties around the study area account for over 20% of all registered boats in the state.
- DNR Fisheries project that native fish population increases will spur increased fishing access.
- Report provided Immediate, short-term and long-term improvements to increase BAS access.



Belle Isle Park Utility Partnerships

DWSD Contract Work

- Inspection of sewer lines to be completed this week. SAW Grant work will be completed in December 2019.
- The balance of water and sewer lines will be inspected and cleaned under a separate contract funded by UTGO bond funds.
- GSD secured UTGO bonds for Belle Isle Assessment.
- UTGO work will begin in November.

DTE Contract Work

- Rauhorn continues to install the transformer boxes round the park.
- Transformer installatoin should be complete by December 2019.
- Rauhorn, DTE's contractor will donate native wildlife habitat planting at ADA playground this fall.





Boat House Assessment

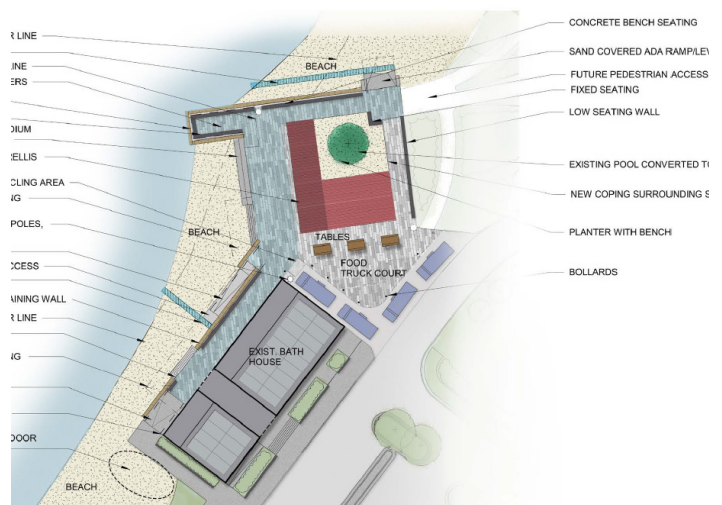
- Vision and Goals workshop Tuesday, October 22nd.

Lake Okonoka Habitat Restoration

- Culvert Construction scheduled mid-November – December 2019.
- FODR will work with USACE and EGLE to permit additional fill around Lake Okonoka and Nashua Canal stop log structure.
- Final Asphalt paving for strand and Woodside scheduled for Spring 2020.

Beach Area Improvements

- BIC presented schematic plans at the annual BIC Polish the Jewel Event.
- Quinn Evans completed schematic design and graphics for the Food Truck Court Patio improvements at the former waterslide deck.
- Quinn Evans will be supervising contractor, FH Martin to remove water slide footings and clean up pool edges to ensure deck is ADA compliant and may be opened to the public prior to improvements.
- Quinn Evans will finalize the bath house assessment report. The civil engineers requested that water pressure tests be completed for the building. Water pressure tests will be complete by AE Com's sub contractor through the DWSD contract funded by UTGO bonds.



BELLE ISLE PARK

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE, October 17, 2019

James Scott Memorial Fountain

- DNR/BIC in process of purchasing original plan set of James Scott Memorial Fountain Plans and Construction photos. The Library of Congress recieved the BIC's check this week. The project team is excitidly awaiting access to these documents.
- Engineers reviewing weir structural repairs required and the functionality of the wier that was constructed to take the founatin 'off-line' of the basin. The design team would like to review cost-effective alternatives to recosntruction the floor of the weir.
- The balance of funds to address the Scott Fountain repairs is \$87,000. This amount was raised at the 2019 Grand Prixmiere event.



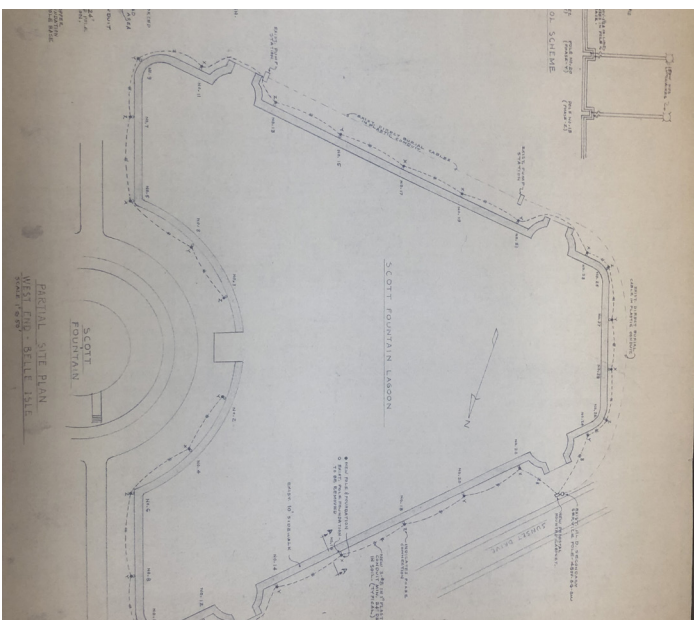
Iron Belle Trail Development

Iron Belle Trailhead

- PRD Park, PRD Trails and Detroit Design Center met to plan Community Engagement.
- Public Meeting will take place Tuesday, November 12th, followed by Stakeholder Meeting at Detroit Design Center Studio.

Iron Belle Trail

- DNR staff and the Design Consultant reviewed the trail layout with MDOT's Pedestrian and Bicycle Coordinator/Specialst this week.
- MDOT's recomendation is to ensure the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists are protected with standard signage for vehicles to stop/yeild to trail users.





North Shoreline Fishing Improvements

- A new concrete has been poured to and new concrete curbs have been installed for ADA Parking area.
- New drainage and grading is currently being installed.
- Railing is on site ready for installation.
- Project should be completed by the end of October.

Athletic Field Handball Courts

- FY 2020 Funding has been approved to fill gap in budget balance for additional scope of work required to address the deteriorated roof structure.
- Contractor is reviewing the revised bulletin and will provide an updated schedule within the next week.



Lake Okonoka Shelter and Playground Improvements

- The Contractor has reviewed the current site conditions and have found that the project site is still inundated with ground water.
- The contractor will review alternative methods with installer for installing concrete footings in wet conditions.
- Project still on hold at this time.



Performing Sewer Condition Assessments

Michigan Department of Natural Resources
in partnership with the
Detroit Water and Sewerage Department



QUESTIONS?
call 313-267-8000



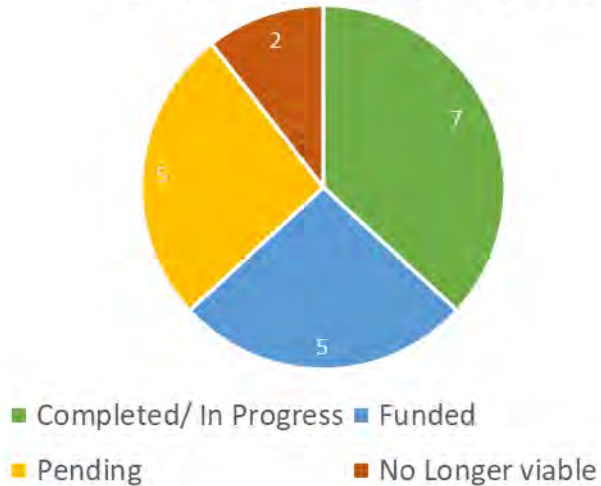
Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update

October 17, 2019 Detroit, MI

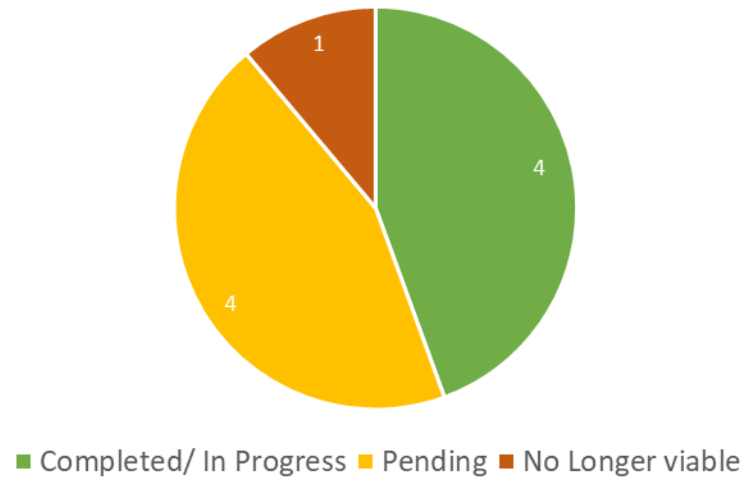


Belle Isle Strategic Management Plan Infrastructure Investment Summary

Priority 1 Project Status, July 2019



Priority 2 Project Status, July 2019



Priority 3 Project Status, July 2019



- 100 % of Top Priority Projects (viable) have been addressed since 2018

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Investment Summary

- More than \$45,303,450 has been invested in infrastructure from FY 2014 to FY2019
- Funding made up of public and private funds



Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Belle Isle Park Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Projects

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\$1,700,000
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\$1,250,000
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\$450,000
- Pump House and Shoreline Stabilization Assessment
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\$825,000
 - Belle Isle Park Master Plan, to be completed in coordination with traffic planning study
\$100,000

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Fiscal Year 2019 Ongoing Projects

- Garage Work underway
- Scheduled to be completed by Thanksgiving



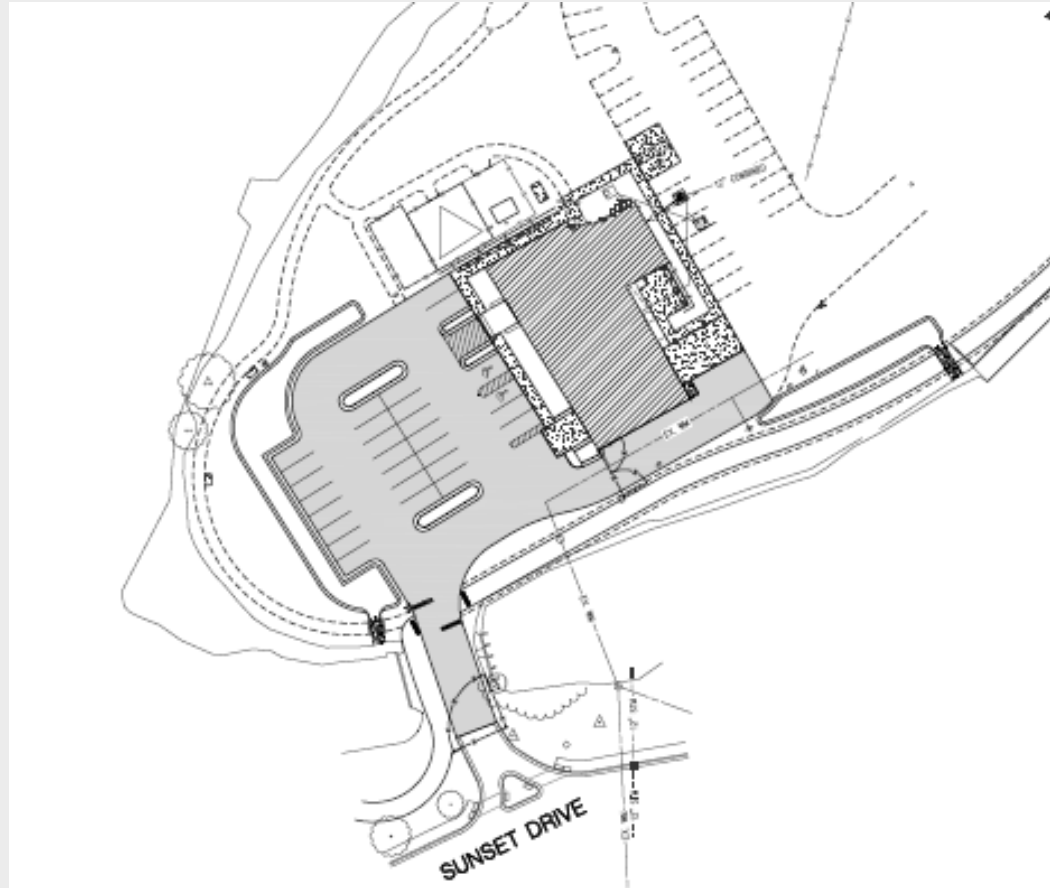
Garage improvements underway

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



FY 2020 Projects Belle Isle Park Headquarters

- Site Plans at 50%
- Maintenance and Operations Garage and Site Design will be bid in FY 2020

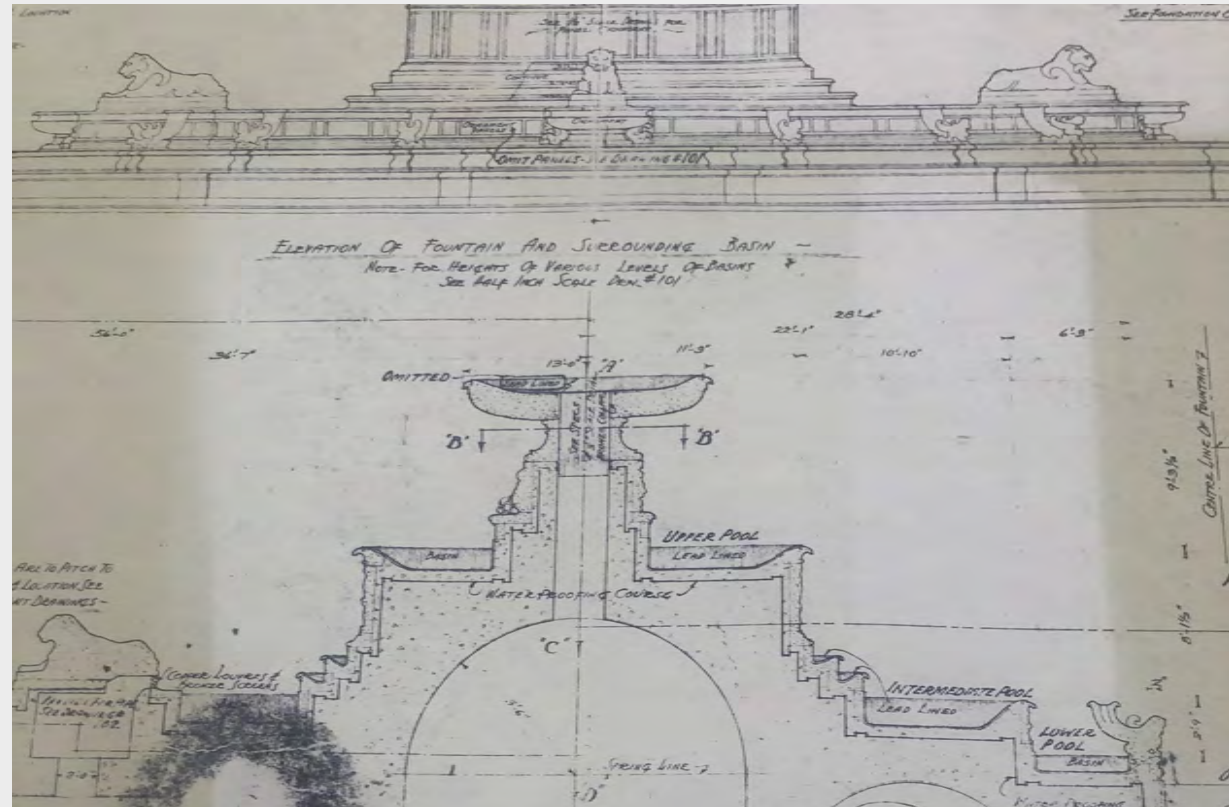


Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



James Scott Memorial Fountain

- **DNR/BIC in process of purchasing original plan set of James Scott Memorial Fountain Plans and Construction photos.**
- **Engineers reviewing weir structural repairs.**
- **\$87,000 raised in 2019 to fund Scott Fountain Repairs**



Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Iron Belle Trailhead Development

- PRD Park, PRD Trails and Detroit Design Center met to plan Community Engagement
- Public Meeting will take place Tuesday, November 12th, followed by Stakeholder Meeting at Detroit Design Center Studio.



Phase 2 of the Trailhead has been funded by Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



ASWC Structural Repairs

- Mock-up for upper dome glass replacement is Monday, October 28th.



Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Comprehensive Planning for the Belle Isle Aquarium (BIA) and Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory (ASWC)

- Geothermal boring tests mobilization has begun by contractor.
- 4-week testing period.



Geothermal Test Well location, safety area

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory Garden Entrance

**WTA contractor on site to perform
survey site work for ADA
Accessible design to ASWC
Garden from West Gate**



Survey Equipment on site

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Fiscal Year 2019 Ongoing Projects

- Lake Okonoka Shelter and Playground Improvements – On Hold
- North Shoreline Fishing Improvements are Underway



Concrete is poured for shoreline area

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Detroit River Boating Access Study

- DNR and GSD reviewed recommendations of Report in October.
- Final report has been submitted to DNR.



Milliken State Park is a popular harbor on the Detroit River

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



- **Week 1**
- **Week 2**
- **Week 3**
- **Week 4**

[illegible]

EXISTING ACCESS
MAP

G-107



Overview of Report Conclusions

- Current BAS facilities do not meet the local need.
- Additional access is desired by the public.
- 3 of the 83 Michigan counties around the study area account for over 20% of all registered boats in the state.
- DNR Fisheries projects that native fish population increases will spur increased fishing access.
- Report Findings predict boater attendance in Detroit River will continue to grow.



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TR 1111-1

April 2011

Summary of Creel Survey Results for the St. Clair River,
Lake St. Clair, and the Detroit River, 2002-05

Michael V. Threlkeld
and
Carol L. Threlkeld



FISHERIES DIVISION
TECHNICAL REPORT 2011-1

Detroit River Boating Access Study



Overview of Report Findings

- Belle Isle Park and Milliken State Park and Harbor not recommended as viable options.
- Recommended approaching the City of Detroit regarding redevelopment of St. Jean BAS.
- Riverside Park BAS should be considered only as supporting site due to small size.
- Future Investment at Grayhaven State Harbor would require coordination with city to improve access.

Detroit River Boating Access Study
Site Analysis / Development Matrix

	Site 1 - Existing storage lot, Pleasure Drive	Site 2 - Existing open space, Lakeside Drive	Site 3 - Milliken State Park, Atwater Street	Site 4 - Grayhaven State Marina, Port Street	Site 5 - Riverside Park, W. Grand Boulevard	Site 6 - St. Jean Launch, St. Jean Street	Site 7 - Delray Park BAS, South Racine/Adrian Street
Site security and public safety concerns	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Proximity to existing MDNR facilities and support mechanisms	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Red	Red	Red
Easy and direct vehicular access to proposed boating access site	Green	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Green
Available area for 100 - 125 vehicle/trailer parking spaces	Red	Green	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Green
Available area for convenient vehicle/trailer maneuvering	Yellow	Green	Red	Yellow	Red	Green	Green
Favorable water depth and currents at proposed launch site	Yellow	Green	Red	Green	Yellow	Green	Green
Requires improvements to neighboring roads and infrastructure	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
May require limits to size of boats being launched	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Available space for future development or expansion	Red	Green	Red	Green	Red	Yellow	Red
Safe routes for pedestrian circulation	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow
Conflicts with existing seasonal events/activities	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green
Conflicts with year-round use	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
Potential cost of construction	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Potential cost of maintenance and operations	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow
Conflicts with existing traffic patterns	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow
Negatively impacts public safety	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Green

Ratings Key :

Green	Favorable, minimal constraints
Yellow	Marginal, some constraints
Red	Unfavorable, major constraints



Immediate Improvements

- Adopt new operational policies for existing infrastructure within study area.
- Use existing infrastructure before recreational season begins to help reduce heavy demand in early spring.



Milliken State Park is a popular harbor on the Detroit River.



Near-Term Improvements (2-5 years)

- Identify BAS suitable for increasing capacity.
- Invest in the expansion of existing sites.
- St. Jean identified as potential site with parking availability and security.
- DTE's Delray Site is a potential site for further investigation.



St. Jean Boat Launch



DWSD Contract SAW Grant

- Inspection of sewer lines to be completed this week
- Last sewer line to be inspected in this scope of work is section under Detroit River.



SAW Grant Assessment is underway

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



DWSD Contract SAW Grant

- AE Com will complete Inventory, Mapping, Assessment and Asset Management Plan.

Appendix C



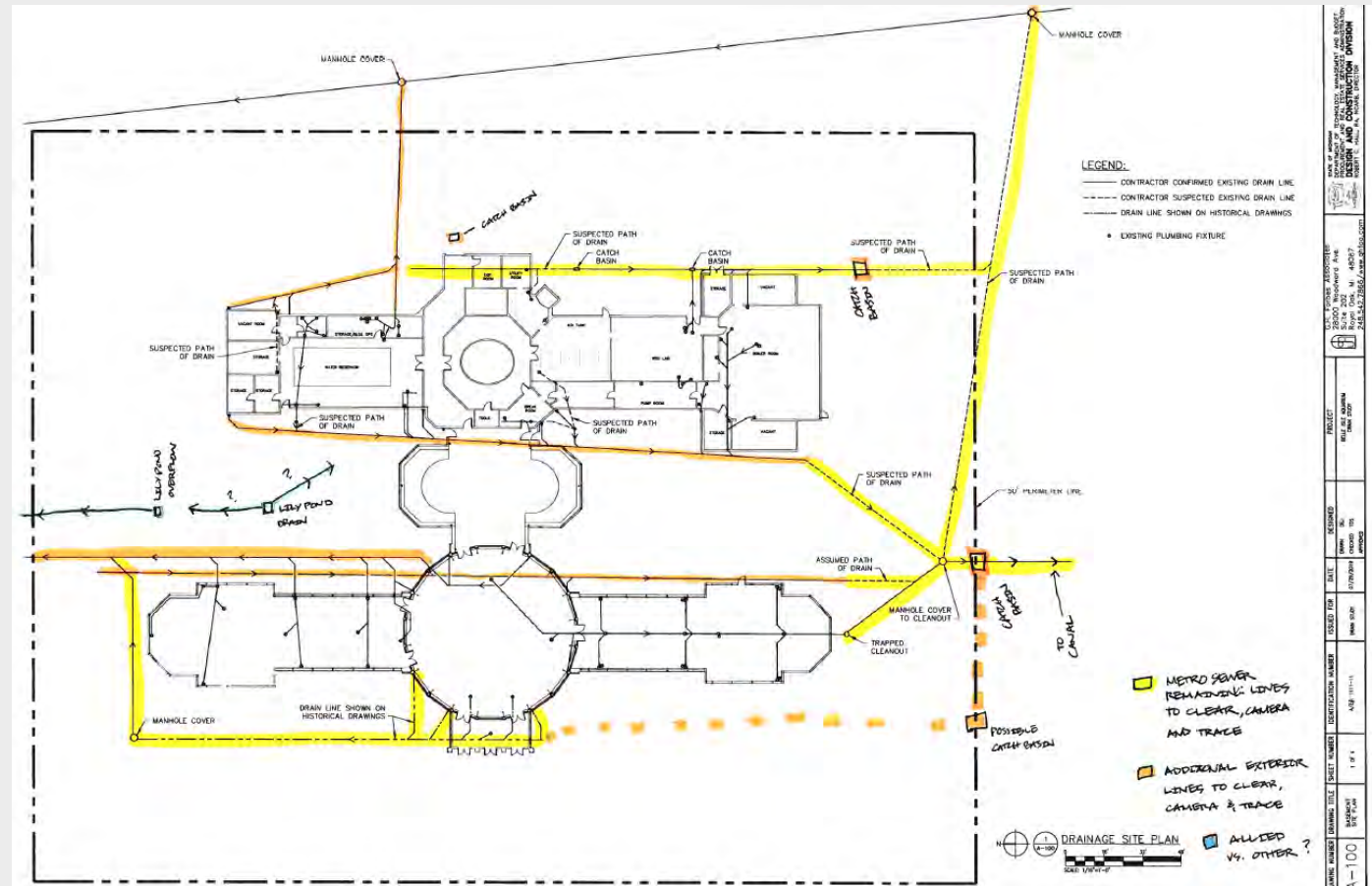
SAW Grant Assessment is underway

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



DWSD Contract UTGO Bond

- Task 1 – Asset Inventory
- Task 2 – GPS Survey
- Task 3 – Condition Assessment
- Task 4 – Sewer and Water System Modeling



DNR and GSD reviewing scope of work for UTGO Bonds with DWSD

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



DWSD Contract UTGO Bond

- Task 5 –
 - Define Level of Service goals, Create probable costs for rehabilitation or replacement of the highest risk assets.
 - These estimates will then be used to augment the 5 and 20-year Capital Improvement Plans developed during the Stormwater AMP



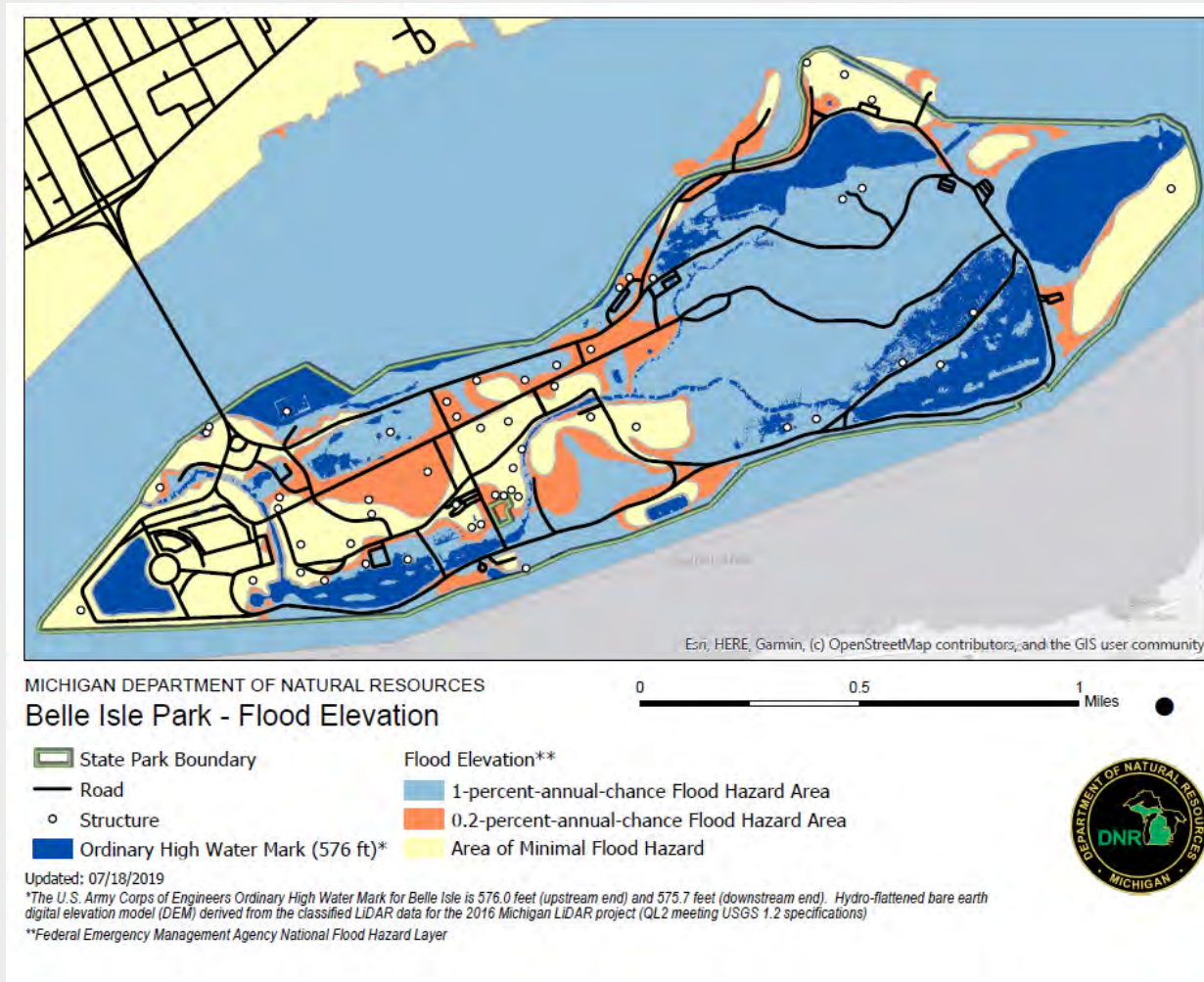
Shelter 20 Parking Lot Catch Basin

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Water Control Assessments

- Assessment will be completed next year to review the condition and capacity of the existing pumps and recommendations for controlling increased water volumes.
- Shoreline condition assessment of river and internal canals and lakes and stabilization plan for shorelines.



Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Lake Okonoka Habitat Restoration

- Culvert Construction scheduled mid-November – December 2019.
- FODR will work with USACE and EGLE to permit additional fill around Lake Okonoka and Nashua Canal stop log structure.
- Final Asphalt paving for strand and Woodside scheduled for Spring 2020.



Bridge has been installed; asphalt has been poured

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



DTE Detroit Electric Conversion

- DTE installation of conduit are underway
- Transformer installation will begin this fall.
- DTE will begin work on the West end of park this fall.



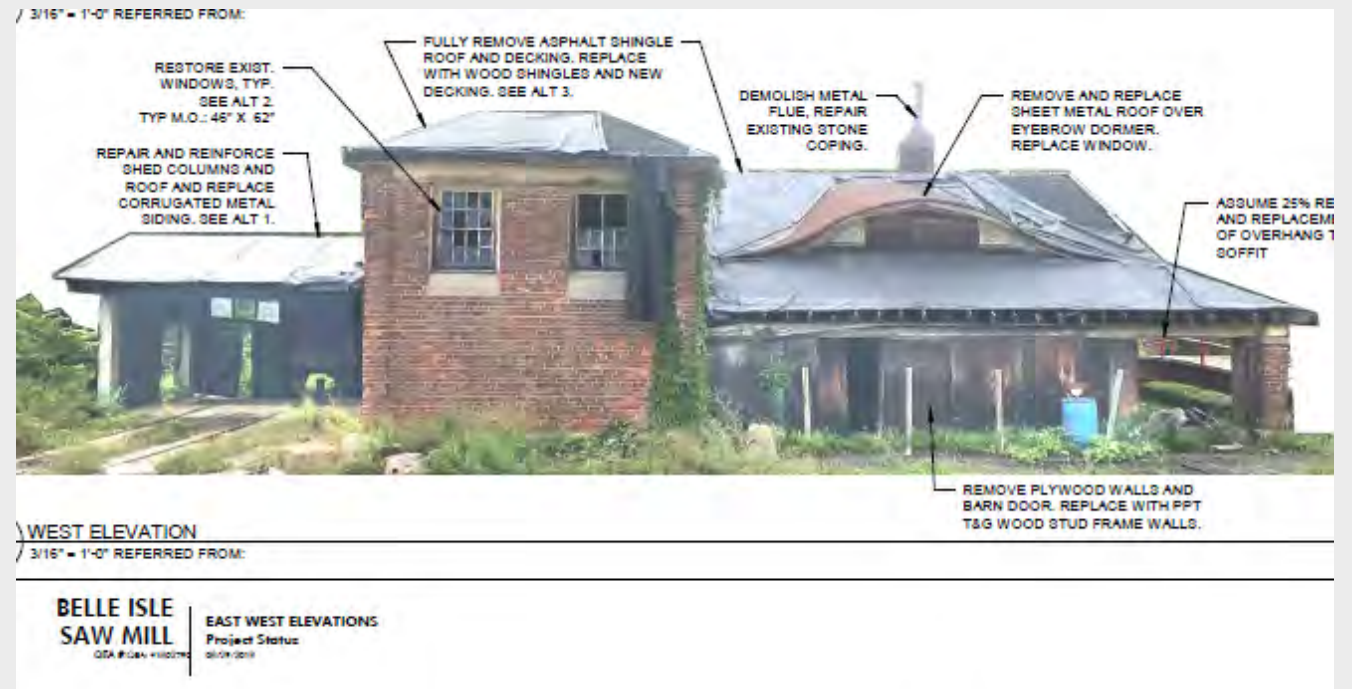
DTE Conversion is underway

Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Sawmill Roof Replacement

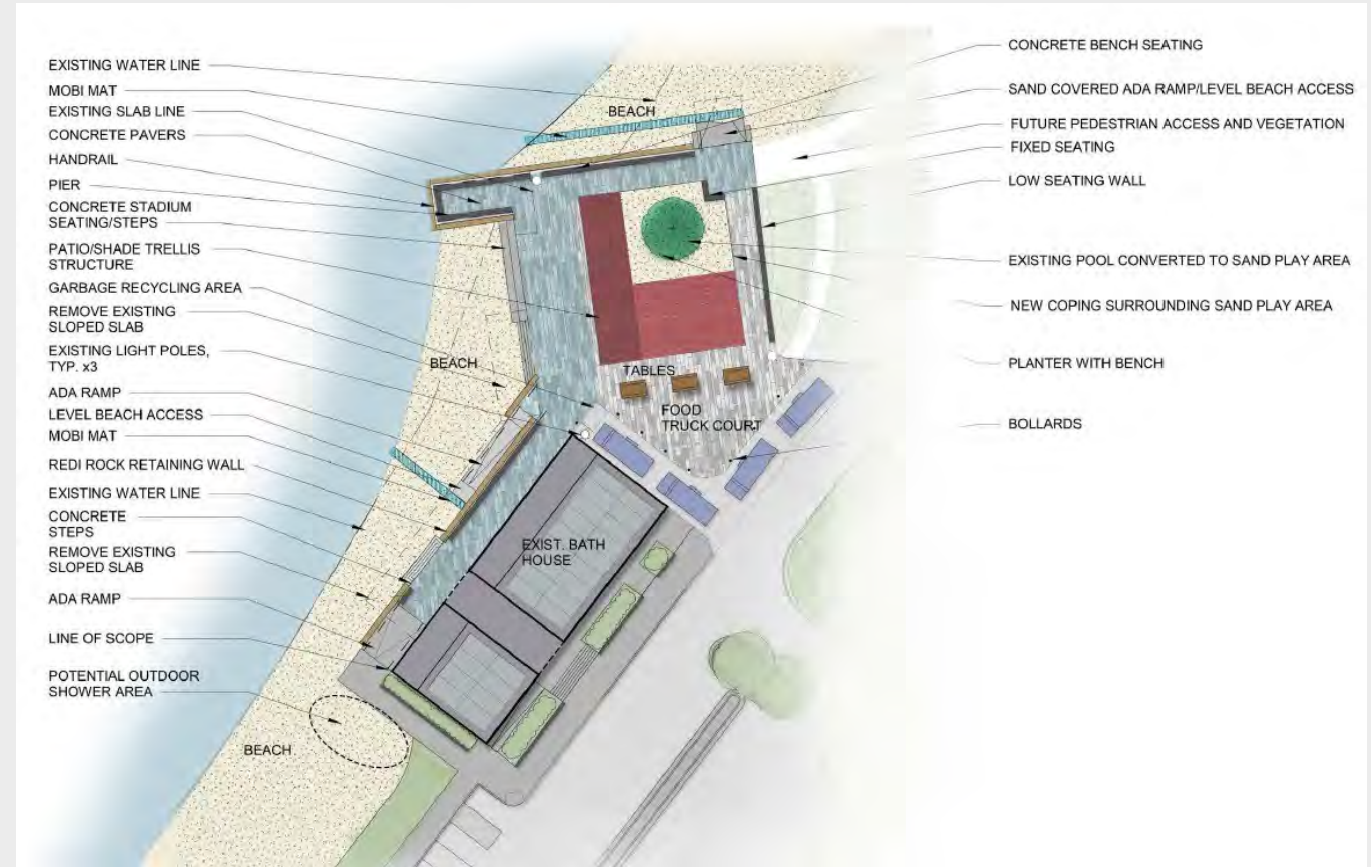
- Project to be bid out fall 2019 pending DNR update of MOA with BIC to transfer funding.





Beach Area Improvements

- BIC will sign Contract with FH Martin to complete former waterslide removals.



Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Beach Area Improvements

- BIC presented schematic plans at the annual BIC Polish the Jewel Event.



Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Fiscal Year 2019 Boat House Assessment

- Vision and Goals workshop
Tuesday, October 22nd.



Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019



Fiscal Year 2019 Athletic Field Handball Courts

- Contractor is reviewing approved bulletin item for scheduling work.
- 8% of FY 2020 budget is allocated to complete the handball court removal.



Belle Isle Park Infrastructure Update, October 2019